

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-11 IO-14

L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-04 OMB-01 PA-04 PM-07 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-03 SS-20 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-07 DODE-00

USIE-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /137 R

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INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

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S E C R E T STATE 187599

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR WG PAPER ON IMPLICATIONS OF REVISED ALLIED
DATA

REF: (A) NATO 4451; (B) STATE 176658

1. REF A IS ACCEPTABLE WITH FOLLOWING CHANGES.

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2. PARA 13. SUBSTANCE OF FOOTNOTE TO PARA 12 SHOULD BE TAKEN NOTE OF BY ADDING, AFTER "THE DISTRIBUTION OF REDUCTIONS BETWEEN NATO NATIONS", THE PHRASE "AND THE ASSIMILATION AND DISPOSITION OF THOSE REDUCTIONS".

3. PARA 14: WE CAN ACCEPT TEXT; BUT YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR, AS APPROPRIATE, THAT THIS IS WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE POSSIBLE FUTURE ACCEPTABILITY OF A 700,000 MAN COMMON CEILING, EVEN IF IT INVOLVES REDUCTIONS SLIGHTLY LARGER THAN 10 PERCENT.

4. PARA 17. YOU SHOULD DROP ALL AFTER "APPRECIABLY SMALLER FIGURE" THROUGH "STRENGTHS OF THE TWO BLOCS" ON RATIONALE OF REF B. LAST SENTENCE CAN BE READ AS IMPLYING AUTOMATIC NATO ACCEPTANCE OF WP-SUPPLIED DATA. "THERE IS AN ACCEPTANCE OF ..." SHOULD THEREFORE BE CHANGED TO READ "THERE IS NATO AND WP AGREEMENT ON ...".

5. PARA 18. AS STATED IN REF B, WE WOULD PREFER DELETION

OF "FINDINGS" SECTION. HOWEVER, IF NECESSARY TO REACH AGREEMENT, YOU MAY ACCEPT PARAGRAPH, IF "WOULD" IS CHANGED TO "COULD" IN 18 D. YOU SHOULD IN THIS CASE

REPEAT PROVISIO OF PARA 3 ABOVE.

6. FYI. WE WISH TO AVOID BEING LOCKED INTO RIGID FORMULATION LIMITING REDUCTIONS TO NO MORE THAN 10 PERCENT FOR FEAR THAT COMPETING DEMANDS FOR CUTS WILL ULTIMATELY REQUIRE SOMEWHAT LARGER REDUCTIONS. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT WISH TO PRECIPITATE A CONFRONTATION WITHIN THE ALLIANCE ON THIS ISSUE NOW AS TO DO SO COULD HOLD UP ALLIANCE AGREEMENT ON SEVERAL ISSUES. MOREOVER THE SUPPORT FOR A RIGID 10 PERCENT RULE MAY ERODE AS MORE ALLIES ANALYZE THEIR OWN REDUCTION NEEDS. THEREFORE YOU SHOULD KEEP OPEN THE OPTION OF CUTS IN EXCESS OF 10 PERCENT, BUT KEEP POINT LOW-KEY SO AS TO AVOID MAJOR CONTROVERSY. END FYI. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DATA, GROUND FORCES, MEETING REPORTS, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE187599
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LFISCHER:LSQ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740235-1150
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740817/aaaaanxs.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) NATO 4451; (B) STATE 176658
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <16 MAY 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR WG PAPER ON IMPLICATIONS OF REVISED ALLIED DATA
TAGS: PARM, NATO
To: NATO BRUSSELS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005